

**MINUTES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
JUNE 28, 2000
SAN FRANCISCO**

Commissioners Present:

Ronald S. Blaul, Chuck Baucom, EMT-P, Robert P. David, Babatunde A. Jinadu, M.D., Ramon W. Johnson, M.D., Sterling Johnson, EMT-P, Robert Kaufman, EMT-P, Stephen J. Maiero, EMT-P, Lou Meyer, Janice M. Ogar, R.N., Michael Rossini, M.D., Blair L. Sadler, Tim Sturgill, M.D.

Commissioner Absent:

Dorothy Bizzini, David, B. Hoyt, M.D., Angelo Salvucci, M.D.

EMS Authority Staff Present:

Richard E. Watson, Daniel R. Smiley, Maureen McNeil, Jeff Rubin, Nancy Steiner, Anne Bybee, Michael Conley, Derrick Green, Michele Handlewith, Richard McSherry, Sheila Martin, Donna Nicolaus, Bonnie Sinz, Cheryl Starling, Connie Telford, Sean Trask, Shirley Tsagris, and Lois Williams

Audience Present:

Ray Navarro, California Fire Chiefs Association, Beverly Hills Fire Department
Michael Harris, EMSAAC, Alameda County EMS Agency
Dave Busse, California Fire Chiefs Association, Santa Clara City Fire Department
Alan Patalano, Long Beach Fire Department
Jeff Eastman, California Fire Chiefs Association,
Kevin White, California Professional Firefighters
Mike Metro, California Fire Chiefs Association, Los Angeles County Fire
Leonard Inch, Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency
Tom McGinnis, Hall Ambulance Service
Steve Andriese, Mountain Valley EMS Agency
Doug Buchanan, Mountain Valley EMS Agency
Kara L. Davis, R.N., Emergency Nurses Association
Gwen Jones, San Diego County EMS Agency
Debbie Becker, ETAP
Fred Drew, Kern County EMS Agency
Steve Sarine, Pathways
Mel Ochs, M.D., San Diego County EMS Agency
Larry Karsteadt, North Coast EMS Agency
Raleigh Harris, California Fire Chiefs Association, Southern Section
Jerry Strouse, Torrance Fire Department
Virginia Hastings, Los Angeles County EMS Agency
Michael Osur, Riverside County EMS Agency

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Suzy Baulch, Santa Clara County EMS Agency
Indira Reddy, Santa Clara County EMS Agency

Bonnie Martignoni, Coastal Valley EMS Agency
Carol Gallagher, El Dorado County JPA
Karl Sporer, M.D., San Mateo County EMS Agency
David Nevins, California Ambulance Association
Ruth Brun, Base Coordinator, John Muir Medical Center

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Blaul at 10:12 a.m.

I. Review and Approval of June 28, 2000 Agenda

Action: Moved (Johnson) seconded (Sturgill), passed to approve the June 28, 2000 Agenda.

II. Review and Approval of the January 26, 2000 Minutes

Action: Moved (Johnson) seconded (Baucom), passed to approve the January 26, 2000 minutes.

Discussion: Commissioner Jinadu inquired about page 6 of the Minutes. Paragraph 4 on Page 6 needs to have more continuity with the discussion of the EMT-I and EMT-II Disciplinary Regulations.

Interim Director, Richard Watson, introduced the new Disaster Medical Services staff to the Commission.

Leonard Inch, EMSAAC's Past President announced that Michael Osur, of Riverside County EMS Agency is the new President of EMSAAC.

Commissioner Jinadu expressed his sorrow at Fred Drew's resignation from the Kern County EMS Agency. He considered Fred to be quite productive in bringing the Kern County EMS Agency to life. Fred will be the Executive Director of Kern County's EOC, a private-non-profit community agency.

Chairman Blaul welcomed Commissioner Kaufman back after a lengthy absence.

III. Report on Ukraine Exercise

Chief Deputy Director, Dan Smiley gave a Powerpoint presentation on the May, Rough and Ready 2000 Exercise that took place in the Ukraine.

IV Update on the Vision Process

Discussion: Miranda Swanson, Project Manager of the Vision Process, gave a report on the Vision Process. "Save the Date" fliers for the November 30 - December 1 Vision Conference have gone out to constituents. The purpose of the conference is to provide information on the progress of the Vision Process to constituents.

There also has been some adjustments for the new Fiscal Year regarding the number of meetings allowed for each Vision Group. They now will be able to have 6 meetings per year for the large groups and 4 meetings per year for each sub-committee. The Vision Process Handbooks are now available for interested parties. In addition, there is an interactive calendar on the EMS Authority's Homepage for public viewing regarding meetings for the Vision Groups and other EMS Authority meetings as well.

Ms. Swanson announced that each Committee Chair would give an update to the Commission.

Michael Harris of the Access Vision Group addressed the Commission. Mr. Harris indicated that the Vision Access Group has established 6 objectives for the Committee. Two subcommittees have completed their objectives and will report to the group at the July 17th meeting.

Steve Andriese gave a Powerpoint presentation on System Review and Data Group. He discussed the 10 Goals of System Review.

Commissioner Jan Ogar, gave a report on the progress of the Injury Prevention Vision Group. Two items they will be proposing are a Registry of Injury Prevention Programs and an injury prevention staff person at EMSA.

Commissioner Tim Sturgill gave a report on the Finance group. He indicated that funding is closely tied to the Governance Group and his group is waiting to see what happens with Governance.

Commissioner Sadler indicated that funding is critical for the EMS System to function. Commissioner Ray Johnson stated that EMS will need some form of subsidy to keep the system going.

Commissioner Sturgill agreed that the EMS Community needs to talk in one voice when we meet with other critical components of the patient care continuum.

Debbie Becker, Chair, Education and Personnel Committee gave an update for her Committee.

Chuck Baucom, Co-Chair, Governance gave his Committee's report.

Ms. Swanson thanked the Committee Chairs for their reports.

V. Update on the EMT-I Task Force

Discussion: Nancy Steiner reported to the Commission the progress of the EMT-I Task Force. The task force has met 3 times. The group has been focusing on comparing the State EMT-I curriculum with the Department of Transportation's (DOT) recent revisions to the EMT-I Basic curriculum. A subcommittee was created to examine the differences between the state requirements and DOT's curriculum. The subcommittee will give a report to the Task Force at the July 26, 2000 meeting.

VI. Update on the EMT-Paramedic Task Force

Discussion: Director Watson indicated to the Commission that Richard McSherry has worked diligently on the Model Disciplinary Orders and the Proposed Standards for Denial/Revocation of Paramedic Licenses and he has been pleased with the Task Force's progress.

Ms. Steiner gave a report to the Commission on the progress of the EMT-P Task Force. She indicated that the EMS Authority is preparing to send out for pre-public comment a proposed draft of the Model Disciplinary Orders and the Proposed Standards for Denial/Revocation in July or August. There will be a 90-day informal review and comment period. All comments will then be reviewed by the Task Force. The EMS Authority will then start the formal rulemaking process to put the Orders and Standards into regulation.

VII. Update on Trial Studies

San Diego County Ems Agency Neuromuscular Blocking Agent/Rapid Sequence Intubation Trial Study

Action: Moved (Ogar) seconded (Meyer), passed to continue this Trial Study

Discussion: Dr. Mel Ochs gave a presentation to the Commission on the 18-month San Diego County Neuromuscular Blocking Agent/Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) Trail Study.

He recommended that the Trial Study be approved for continuation for an additional 18 months.

Ventura County's EMT-I Insertion of Intravenous Catheters Trial Study

Action: Moved (Meyer) seconded (Baucom), passed to table the Ventura County's Trial Study until the September 27, 2000 EMS Commission Meeting.

Discussion: Ventura County's Trial Study was tabled per Commissioner Angelo Salvucci's request.

Director Watson spoke of Amiodarone being used as a trial study or added to Optional Scope of Practice for requesting counties. He said he will do neither at this time. He will wait until the American Heart Association comes out with their guidelines and recommendations and make a decision after that time.

VIII. Update on EMS for Children

Discussion: Director Watson reminded members of the Commission that the EMS for Children Conference will be held November 8 and 9, 2000 in San Diego. There will also be a roll out training session on PIPP November 6 and 7. He encouraged all the Commissioners to attend.

IX. Update on Trauma Advisory Committee

Action: Moved (Rossini) seconded (Meyer), passed to deny Nor Cal EMS Agency's exemption for Oroville Hospital

Discussion: Leonard Inch, Executive Director of Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency gave a report on his Trauma System Funding Research Project. He indicated that the process is moving along well. Commissioner David reiterated that the Trauma Project is moving along well and that funding is now available for research.

Action: Moved (Johnson) seconded (Maiero), passed to vote on NorCal issue after the discussion.

Commissioner Sturgill then gave a report on the progress of the Trauma Advisory Committee. The Committee had been reviewing a request from the NorCal EMS Agency to approve use of CRNAs at Oroville Hospital (a potential Level III trauma center).

Commissioner Strugill mentioned that NorCal does not have an updated trauma plan and that it was premature to request an exemption until the plan has been updated. The Committee also recommended that there be an external verification process for hospitals seeking exemptions.

Commissioner Ogar asked if the verification process would be a full ACS process? Commissioner Sturgill said the Committee was just recommending an external process not necessarily ACS.

Commissioner David asked if the exemption was just for Oroville Hospital? Commissioner Strugill indicated that the exemption is just for Oroville.

Commissioner David indicated that since Oroville Hospital is a member of the Hospital Council of Northern California, where he is employed, that he would have to abstain from voting on this issue.

X. Update on Commission Medical Disaster Planning and Response Advisory Committee

Action: Moved (Johnson), seconded (Baucom), passed that the Administrative Committee review and make a recommendation to the Commission in September.

Discussion: Director Watson said that we no longer had the Commissioner, Herb McElwee, who volunteered to head this Committee. The Committee never met and there are no members on this committee. Director Watson asked the Commission if they felt it was still necessary to continue with this Committee. Commissioner Ray Johnson indicated that there is currently another group in the State addressing some of the same issues.

XI. EMS Authority Progress Report

Discussion: Director Watson briefly went over the legislation pending in the Legislature that affects the Department as well as the constituent groups. Director Watson indicated that the Legislative session would end on August 31, and that the Governor will then have until September 30 to sign or veto bills.

Director Watson spoke about the California Poison Control Center funding. Both the Assembly and the Senate had approved an additional \$2.5 million for poison control center funding.

Commissioner David asked if the additional \$2.5 million will be added and become a baseline for further budget years. Director Watson indicated that he was not certain that this would be a permanent budget allocation. **(Note: The Governor did not approve the \$2.5 million.)**

Director Watson spoke on the Disciplinary Regulations for EMT-Is and EMT-IIs. The regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and became effective in early March. The information is available on the homepage.

Director Watson told the Commission that a letter was sent to the President of EMSAAC requesting EMSAAC's assistance in addressing the Interfacility Transfer Issue. The EMS Authority is asking EMSAAC to take the lead on developing a Task Force on this issue. The Authority is awaiting EMSAAC's reply. Commissioner Meyer asked questions regarding the

scope of this task force.

Director Watson indicated that both the Public Safety Regulations and the EMT-I regulations had been approved by the Office of Administrative Law and that these regulations are now in effect. Copies can be obtained from the homepage.

Director Watson brought up the Cellular 9-1-1 issue at which time Commissioner Ogar requested that it be tabled for the next EMS Commission meeting.

Director Watson spoke to the Commission on the CLIA issues that had developed in the last few months over DHS' public comment on the CLIA regulations. A meeting is planned for July 18 at the EMS Authority with DHS staff. Director Watson asked the Commission who they thought should attend this meeting. Commissioner David recommended the Commission send a letter to Grantland Johnson, Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency, be sent from the Commission regarding CLIA.

Action: Moved (Meyer) seconded (David), passed to send a letter to Grantland Johnson from the Commission addressing their concerns regarding the DHS CLIA Regulations.

Commissioner Meyer suggested that the Commissioners talk with their appointing powers on the CLIA issue, so that the Governor and the Legislature could understand their concerns.

XII. Open Comments

Discussion: Commissioner Sterling Johnson commented on the Authority's position on the pertrach device. He indicated that the military has been training their medics on pertrach use for years and that there should be studies by the military on this device.

Mr. Smiley, Chief Deputy Director, indicated that Dr. Salvucci and Dr. Tharratt of EMDAC would encourage trial studies on pertrach use in the field.

Chairman Blaul adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m.